

IN RECOGNITION OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS AND LIFE OF JOSÉ "CHEGÜI" TORRES

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the remarkable life achievements of a beloved Puerto Rican sports icon and long-time distinguished New Yorker. José "Chegüi" Torres is an example to us all, both for his accomplishments as an athlete and his dedication to his community and Nation.

Chegüi was born on May 3, 1936 in Ponce, Puerto Rico. By his late teens, he had shown such prowess in the ring, that he was invited to join the U.S. Olympic Boxing Team. As an Olympian, he won a silver medal in the junior middleweight division at the 1956 Melbourne Summer Games.

Subsequently—still as an amateur boxer—he won the 1958 Inter-City Golden Gloves Championship. Later that year, Chegüi chose to join the ranks of boxing professionals. He debuted with a first round knockout of George Hamilton in New York, and followed that impressive professional victory with 12 wins—10 of them by knockout. On March 30, 1965, the Brooklyn resident became world light-heavyweight boxing champion before thousands of adoring fans at Madison Square Garden. He is one of the first three Puerto Ricans to earn a world title, and the first Hispanic ever to win the world's light heavyweight championship.

The notoriety that came from his 1965 triumph brought him considerable national attention. It even led to such highlights as an appearance—and singing performance—on the Ed Sullivan Show. Not one to rest on his laurels, however, Chegüi successfully defended his championship belt three times. In fact he did not retire from the sport until 1969, doing so with an impressive 41–3–1 record.

In more recent years, Chegüi has distinguished himself as a leader of New York's Puerto Rican community. He is a familiar face to city residents, and a tireless advocate of the less fortunate among us. From 1984 to 1988, he also served as New York State Athletic Commissioner. And, from 1990 to 1995, he was named President of the World Boxing Organization.

Having traded his boxing gloves for the might of the written word, Chegüi is now also an accomplished author. He has written several books, among them: *Sting Like a Bee*, about Muhammad Ali and *Fire and Fear*, about Mike Tyson. He is also a highly regarded sports columnist for ESPNdeportes.com and a commentator for ESPN Deportes and ESPN International.

José "Chegüi" Torres has lived a remarkable life. He has accomplished tremendous victories inside the ring, and—on behalf of Puerto Ricans everywhere—outside of it. He has shown himself to be a leader, a fierce representative of his Nation, and a tireless supporter of his community. After four decades of living in New York, "Chegüi" returned with his wife of more than 46 years, Ramona Ortiz Rodriguez, to his beloved Puerto Rico. He takes with him a lifetime of memories, our best wishes, and the respect of a people who will forever see him as their champion.

TRIBUTE TO DR. SALTER JOSIAH COCHRAN JR.

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, it is with great admiration and respect that I recognize a dear friend and one of this nation's most distinguished citizens, Dr. Salter Josiah Cochran Jr. Dr. Cochran was born on February 28, 1922 here in Washington, DC. He attended the public schools for the District of Columbia and graduated from historic Dunbar High School. Thereafter, he attended and graduated from Howard University receiving both a Bachelor's of Science degree and a medical degree from the School of Medicine. I applaud and commend Dr. Cochran and his classmates upon recently celebrating their 60th medical school class reunion.

Dr. Cochran served our country as a Captain in the United States Army Medical Corps. He served as Chief of the Outpatient Clinic and attending physician while stationed at Fort Belvoir, Virginia and Walter Reed Military Hospital. Upon his discharge he was awarded the Combat Medical Badge and two Bronze Stars for his service to our country.

After his military service, Dr. Cochran moved to North Carolina and embarked upon a very successful career as a community physician. He practiced medicine in Weldon, North Carolina for 51 years and retired from the practice in 2001 with thousands of patients who truly appreciate his service. Dr. Cochran also served as physician for the 632nd Air Force Radar Base in Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina. Both of these communities are in my Congressional District.

Even though Dr. Cochran committed many hours of providing dedicated service to his patients, he remained true to his commitment to be active, productive and dedicated to every facet of the community. Dr. Cochran served as the President of the Old North State Medical Society; President of Halifax-Northampton County Medical Society; Member of the School Board in Weldon, North Carolina; Physician for Caledonia Prison System in Halifax County; Chief Medical Examiner in Halifax and Northampton Counties; Weldon High School Sports Physician; Chairman of the Board of Elections in Halifax County; and a life member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.

In December of 2001, Dr. & Mrs. Cochran retired to Suffolk, Virginia and now live in retirement in Smithfield, Virginia.

Madam Speaker, Dr. Cochran is a devoted husband and father. He is married to the former Doris Hill of Denver, Colorado. The Cochran's are the proud parents of four children: Leslie G. Bobbin, Anthony P. Cochran, Christine A. McLarty, and Robin C. Quarles. They also have 7 grandchildren: Amanda M. Bobbitt, Lydia M. Bobbin, Zachary J. Quarles, Jeremiah K. Quarles, Ryan A. Cochran, Lindsey K. Cochran, and Daniel F. McLarty.

I urge my Colleagues to join me in recognizing Dr. Salter Josiah Cochran, Jr.

HONORING HAMILTON COLLEGE WOMEN'S LACROSSE TEAM

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL A. ARCURI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. ARCURI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to proudly congratulate the Hamilton College women's lacrosse team on winning this year's NCAA Division III Championship.

I commend the Hamilton Continentals on their remarkable 21–1 performance this season and on setting a NCAA program record for the year. The Continentals achieved a stunning 19-game straight victory leading into the playoffs, and this year marks the first time that the team has advanced to the national semi-finals in its playoff history. This team has proven that a strong will and never looking back will take you far, as it encountered and beat both the number-one ranked team and the defending champions en route to their 13–6 victory in the final.

The Hamilton Continentals are a shining example of what hard work and commitment can produce, and I am delighted to represent such an inspirational group of young athletes in Congress. The sacrifices and contributions of the entire team and their head coach merit true recognition. The Continentals have brought pride and honor to our community as well as their loved ones and the students and alumni of Hamilton College.

Madam Speaker, I deeply congratulate the Hamilton College women's lacrosse team on this great accomplishment, and I wish them luck and success in their future endeavors.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the first and second amendments to the Senate amendment to H.R. 2642. In November 2006, the people of the United States gave this Congress a mandate to end the war in Iraq. Yet today we are in the same place we were in January of 2007 and have not taken appropriate action to end the war.

The first amendment considered today continues to fund the war with an additional \$162.5 billion for operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. These funds will carry the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan into 2009. This money adds to the \$700 billion that Congress has appropriated for all war related expenses since 2001. Expert analysis tells us that the real cost of funding this war will amount to \$3 trillion. Yet dollar figures cannot begin to estimate the true cost of war which includes the lost lives of the 4,077 of our honorable troops who have been killed in Iraq and 501 killed in Afghanistan, the lives of over 1,000,000 Iraqi civilians, and the injury of over 30,000 members of the Armed Forces.

The second amendment sets a goal for the withdrawal of our troops from Iraq. I favor the safe and orderly redeployment of our troops